SPECIAL
COLLECTIONS
DOUGLAS
LIBRARY

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY
AT KINGSTON

KINGSTON ONTARIO CANADA

THE

MEASURES

OF THE

Late Administration

EXAMIN'D.

WITH

An ENQUIRY into the Grounds of the present *Revolution.*

Vendidit hic Auro Patriam, Dominamque probrosam
Imposuit; Leges fixit Pretio, atque refixit.

LONDON:
Printed for M. COOPER, at the *Globe* in *Pater-noster-Row.*

MDCCXLV.

(Price One Shilling.)

THE

MEASURES

Of the late

ADMINISTRATION

EXAMIN'D, *&c.*

IF ever any Set of Men had a fair Opportunity of coming into Power, with the greateſt Advantage, it was undoubtedly the Gentlemen of the late Adminiſtration; and more eſpecially they, who had generally been look'd upon as the *Heads of the Oppoſition* in both Houſes. Having with *indefatigable Induſtry*, *Perſeverance*, and *Aſſiduity*, by the *hearty Concurrence* of a *Noble Duke*, ſince dead, to the no ſmall Loſs of his Country; and by the *Support* and *Countenance* of a yet *much greater* Perſon;

3030421

together with the *moſt generous* and *vigorous Efforts* of a *free People*, almoſt *unanimouſly rouz'd* by *many* and *repeated Provocations*, as well as *grievous Oppreſſions*: Having, we ſay, by theſe Means, work'd up, by ſlow Degrees, an *inconſiderable Minority* to a *clear Majority*, they ſaw the *Road* to *Preferment* and *Honours* lye *open* before them; and might have *carv'd*, in a Manner, for *themſelves* and *their Friends*, with the *general Applauſe* of *their Country*, (upon *whoſe Shoulders* they had been upheld) on the *eaſy*, *juſt* and *honourable Terms*, of obtaining, at leaſt, for the People, the *effectual Redreſs* of their *worſt Grievances*, if it ſhould be found *impracticable* to prevail for the *Remedy* of all. This was neither *more* nor *leſs* than they had themſelves declared *abſolutely neceſſary*, both *within Doors* and *without*; in *publick* and in *private*; VIVA VOCE, and in *print*; nay, it was neither *more*, nor *leſs*, than what they had *ſolemnly averr'd*, and PROMISED (in the *moſt open* and *undiſguiſed* Manner) ſhould be the *abſolute Condition*, SINE QUA NON, of *ceaſing their Oppoſition*.

But, when Things, by the powerful Helps beforementioned, were brought to ſuch a *favourable Criſis*, as far exceeded their *utmoſt Hopes*, and *Expectation*, *how* did theſe *State Renegades*, theſe *lively Types* of the *Original Grand Apoſtate*, theſe *exact Followers* of that

that *Arch-Traytor* JUDAS, who *betrayed* his *Maſter* and *Benefactor*, (nay, which was more, ſuch a *Maſter* and *Benefactor*, as, had he *continued faithful*, would likewiſe have been his *Saviour*) with a *Kiſs*: How, we ſay, did *theſe Gentry*, of *equal Probity*, *Veracity*, *Diſcretion*, and *Honour*, proceed? Did they obtain any One of thoſe Ends, for which they *ſo frequently*, and *ſo ſolemnly ſtipulated*? Or, for which they had ſo *long*, and ſo *vehemently bellow'd* and *declaimed*? Not ſo much as One. Did they even *attempt it*, or, did they, by all *imaginable Means*, and *Subterfuges*, endeavour to *defeat* and *elude it*? If they did, what ſhall we ſay to ſuch Men? Words are *too faint*, to expreſs the Idea we conceive of them! It would have been ſomewhat *more excuſable*, however, (though ſcarce any Thing can *extenuate* the *Baſeneſs* and *Wickedneſs* of ſuch a Conduct) if they cou'd plead any *ſtrong Temptation*, either *from Neceſſity*, or *Offers of extraordinary Advantages*, no other Way attainable. But, alas! to their *eternal Confuſion*, and to the *utter Diſcredit* both of *their Policy*, and *Diſcretion*, by the Help of the People, had they not *meanly deſerted them*, they might have *extorted* Terms, *equally*, if not *more*, *advantagious* for themſelves, and might have been ſupported therein with Honour, to this Hour. What Account can be given for a

Behaviour ſo every way unaccountable! With the *Winning Cards all* in their *own Hands*, they *ſtupidly* conſent to make a *ſhameful Hedge*, for their *dear Selves* alone, and accept of *leſs than half the Stakes*, when the whole was at *their Mercy?* To ſpeak more plainly, Three or Four of the *Leaders*, with ſome of their *moſt truſty Dependants*, *Creatures*, and *Underlings*, having brought the C——t to their *own Bow*, MEANLY and WEAKLY AGREE to a *ſcandalous Compromiſe* for their *own ſweet Perſons*, and giving up all their Advantages, *honeſtly leave* their *old Friends*, and the *People*, to *ſhift*, as well as they can for themſelves.

Behold them, then, now, all but *One*, whoſe *ſolemn Declarations*, that he *never would accept* of *any Poſt*, render'd it *quite improper* for him to *break through* them *barefacedly* at once, and who, therefore, was to be *gratified* another Way; inſtall'd, *firmly* as they thought, in their ſeveral Employments; and *hugging themſelves* at the *Succeſs* of *their hitherto proſperous Treachery*; wherefore, from hence forward, we ſhall look upon them no longer, in the Light of *Leaders* of the *Oppoſition*, but in that of *profeſs'd M——rs*, and as we ſhall ſoon ſee, *C—rs*, or their *Partizans*. And here *ſo vaſt* a *Field* lies open before us; ſuch an *ample Fund of Matter* preſents itſelf; *ſuch a perplex'd Scene*, ſo

ſo *various*, ſo *new*, and ſo *ſurprizing*, is diſplay'd before us, that we are *more in Danger* of ſaying *too little*, than *too much*; *more at a Loſs* where *to begin*, than where *leave off*; or, than having *once begun*, how to *proceed*.

In Effect, both former and modern Times have ſhown us M——rs *running great Lengths*, towards the *Ruin* of their *Country*, and ſtooping to *baſe Compliances*, to *curry Favour* with their Prince; but *ſuch Lengths*, and *ſuch Compliances*, no Period of Time, at leaſt, in our Hiſtories, can match.

Again, other M——rs have had *ſeveral Things* to *plead*, in *Extenuation* of their *worſt Actions*; either they were *pick'd out* by their Maſter, abſolutely for *that Purpoſe*, and held their Places by that *Tenure*; or, they had *never been truſted* at all by the People, and conſequently could not have *been guilty* of any *Breach of Truſt* to them; or, they had acted according to the *Dictates of their* Conſcience, however *erroneous*. But what can be pleaded by *theſe Gentry?* Not that they were *choſen by their Maſter* on *any Account*, or *Conſideration*: Far from it, being *ſtrongly upheld* by the Body of the Nation, it is well known, they *forced themſelves* into *Power*, and that much *againſt the Grain:* Not that they were *not truſted*, for to *our Misfortune* never Men *were more*, which is an *infinite*

Aggravation of *their Perfidy*, for which *we ſmart* to this Hour: Not that they *acted* according to *the Dictates of their Conſcience*; they will not have the *Effrontery* to pretend to it; all their *Speeches*, *Vows*, *Declarations* and *Oaths*, for above Ten Years, STARE them *too full* in the *Face*, and would *condemn them*. What then ſhall we ſay, or rather, what ſhall we not ſay? How fully have we ſeen verified thoſe Lines of the Poet?

Ætas parentum, pejor avis, tulit
Nos nequiores,———

And, Heaven grant, there may be no Room to add what immediately follows!

——— *Mox daturos.*
Progeniem vitioſiorem.

From all that has been premiſed, it may eaſily be collected, that we do not intend, to enter into an exact Detail of every ſingle Step, that was taken by theſe new M——rs, during the Time of their Exaltation; No, *ſhort* as their Reign was, Thanks be to Providence! it would require a voluminous Work, to enumerate all the *dirty Particulars*, and treat of them in a proper Manner; wherefore, we ſhall leave this Taſk to ſome abler Pen, or, at leaſt, to one endued with a greater

greater Stock of Patience, than we pretend to; all that we design, being only to give a succinct Account of the *most flagrant* Parts of their Conduct, and especially those, which have chiefly contributed, to reduce us to our *present hopeful Condition.*

And in order to this, as it will almost entirely consist of an Enumeration of their *several Sins* and *Offences*, we think, we can not do better, than to follow the Example that is set before Us, in the excellent Confession of our Church, namely, by dividing them into *Sins of Omission*, and *Sins of Commission*; since, never could it be *more truly said* by any Men; *We have followed* too much *the* Devices *and* Desires *of our* own Hearts; *We have offended against thy* righteous Laws; *We have* left undone *those Things which we* ought *to have done*; *And we* have done *those Things which we* ought not *to have done*: To which the whole Nation may, with *great Truth*, and *Sorrow of Heart*, subjoin, *Till there is* no Health *in Us*; *Wherefore, thou* LORD *have* Mercy upon Us, *miserable People*; *Spare thou them which confess their Folly*, (in *trusting* such GRAND DECEIVERS;) *and restore thou them which are heartily sorry for it.* Thus far, we believe, it will be agreed on all Hands, this Form is admirably suited both to them, and to the Publick; but, if any Doubt thereof should remain,

remain, the following Sheets will make it clear, beyond a Poſſibility of Denial; beſides that we muſt be *deſtitute of Feeling*, as well as all our other Senſes, not to be fully convinced of it; but to proceed.

Behold, then, our late Patriots, or Leaders of the Oppoſition, call them which you pleaſe, now Metamorphoſed into *M——rs*, according to their Wiſh; and the Eyes of all the People fixed upon them, in Expectation of a *ſpeedy Redreſs* of all or moſt of their Grievances: They cou'd never have imagined that Perſons, who ow'd their Advancement ſolely to their Influence, and had forced their Way into the *Ad——n* in a Manner *Vi & Armis*, would have had the *Front*, nay, would have *dared*, to *trifle* with them *egregiouſly*, even from the very firſt, and before they were warm in their Seats.

What Words, therefore, can expreſs their Surprize, when they found ſoon after, from ſeveral Circumſtances, that a *ſhameful Compromiſe* had been made, as was before obſerved, and that, in all probability, they were as far from obtaining the *Redreſs of their Grievances* as ever? Inſtead of an entire Rout of the whole M——l Party, as had been expected, they ſaw only the M——r himſelf, and ſome few of his Creatures removed, to make Room for theſe Leaders, and their Partizans, for whom theſe Poſts

were

were allotted; but his *moſt truſty* Friends ſtill kept their Employments: By this Means his *Influence* behind the Curtain, was *as great* as ever, and conſequently he was himſelf *effectually ſkreen'd* from *publick Juſtice.*

Now the calling him to a *ſtrict Account* for his *long, weak, oppreſſive,* and *deſtructive Ad———n,* was one of the *firſt* and *principal* Things expected from the new M———y; this is ſo true, that nothing had made one of them *ſo popular,* as his *famous Vow of Deſtruction*; and his Declaration in print, not to come to any Terms, the firſt of which ſhould not be, the *delivering him up to the Juſtice of his Country:* Nay, it was one of the *expreſs Terms* upon which they had been ſo firmly ſupported, and that for this *obvious Reaſon*; becauſe *Impunity* to *publick Offenders,* is the *greateſt Encouragement imaginable,* for others to *tread in the ſame Steps.* There was no Room, therefore, to *hope for Amendment,* from any *future M——r,* whilſt there was a *recent Example* before his *Eyes,* that the State might be *robb'd, plunder'd* and *diſhonour'd* with *Safety.* On the contrary it was rather ſtrongly to be preſumed, that they, who contrary to their *expreſs Declarations, Profeſſions* and *Oaths,* would have the *Front* to *ſkreen* ſo great an Object of the *publick Hatred,* only intended it as a *Precedent* for them-

themſelves, in caſe the *evil Day* ſhould *overtake them.* In this, however, we hope, they will be deceived; we hope, the Genius of the Nation is *rouzing itſelf* once more, and will prove *too ſtrong* for *Corruption*, or any other *vile Arts*, of *State Empiricks* and *Poiſoners.*

The *very Suſpicion*, however, that their *Sufferings* were to be *overlook'd*, and their *Vengeance defeated*, raiſed ſuch a *Ferment* in the Nation, as the *new M——rs* found, it would not be *quite ſafe* to trifle with; in order, therefore, to *pacify* them for the preſent, and *elude that Reſentment* they were reſolved *not to gratify*, it was concluded, with a View to gain Time, and allow Room for their Paſſion to ſubſide, to ſet on Foot *an Enquiry*, which they were predetermined ſhould come to nothing.

Accordingly, all the uſual *Apparatus* to that End was order'd, and a *Secret Committee* appointed, of which it was deſigned, the *famous V-w of D-ſt--ct--n Gentleman* ſhould be the Chairman; but, to *their great Diſappointment*, he happened then to be troubled with a *Scruple of Conſcience*, which induced him to *decline that Honour*, and even the being of the Committee; on pretence, it would be very indecent in him, after the Animoſity he had expreſſed, and the Vengeance he had ſo publickly denounced againſt the *M——r*,

to

to ſit as a Scrutineer into his Conduct; thus fell the *famous Vow of Deſtruction* to the Ground, and has *never been heard* of ſince.

In Effect, though we don't know, it has ever been repreſented as yet in this Light, it is our Opinion, the *whole Scheme* of *this Farce*, from the Beginning to End, was plann'd out by the *E*— of *O*----- himſelf; there is no Cauſe, therefore, to wonder, that no more came of it, ſince it is very evident it was never deſign'd there ſhould. Our Reaſons for being of this Opinion are, from a *ſimilar Piece of Management*, in the Year 1721, with regard to the *South-Sea Directors*, of which it is to be preſumed, the aforeſaid *E*-- ought to have the whole Honour. It has always been a conſtant Maxim with his L-----, and indeed he has ſeldom failed of finding it ſucceſsful, *that he who gains Time, gains every Thing*. Accordingly when the *Fury* of the Populace was raiſed to the *greateſt Height*, at the *enormous Villany*, and *Rapine*, of thoſe *Plunderers* of a *deluded Nation*, and their *Accomplices* and *Adherents*; inſomuch that all that was bad was to be apprehended from thence; and it was imagined they were in Danger of being even *Dewitted*, or *torn in Pieces*; his L-----, then Mr. *W*———, being newly come into Play a ſecond Time, ſince the King's Acceſſion, (and as it is believed, from his Procedure afterwards,

wards, on the *very Terms* of *ſkreening thoſe Miſcreants*, from their ſo highly *deſerved Puniſhment)* purſued juſt the *ſame Track*, in order to *elude the Reſentment* of the People, as has been ſince follow'd ſo happily for him, in his own behalf.

Firſt, in order to gain Time and keep the Publick in ſuſpence, till their *Fury* began to ſubſide, *ample Juſtice* was promiſed them, which, as was viſible by the Event, was never intended. Was not this the very Caſe with our *late Deceivers? Secondly*, Sir *J—n Bl—nt*, the reputed Projector of the whole Scheme, an *abandon'd Proſligate*, and of a *harden'd Front*, having been firſt *well tutor'd* by *Somebody*, was ſummon'd before the *Secret Committee*; and continued *obſtinately dumb*, or at leaſt, refuſing to give any *ſatisfactory Anſwers* to the Queſtions propounded. How exactly was his Example copied after, in our *late ſecond Part to the ſame Tune?*

Again, for the *more effectual Prevention* of *any Diſcoveries* that might be *prejudicial* to theſe *worthy Gentry*, it was thought proper, that the *Treaſurer Robert Knight*, (whoſe late Return with *Impunity*, muſt *have aſtoniſh'd* all the *honeſt Part* of Mankind,) ſhould *travel a little*, with *certain obnoxious Books* and *Papers*, through an Inſpection into which, *ſome Secrets*, not *altogether agreeable*, might have *tranſpired*. Here indeed, the Parallel fails

fails a little; but this was *abſolutely unavoidable* at that Time; our late *Grand Vizier*, not having yet gained ſo great an Aſcendant, over a certain *well-diſciplin'd Troop*, who have ſince been his *faithful Drudges*, to do all his *dirty Work*.

Theſe are our Reaſons, and *very ſufficient* we think they are, for believing the *whole Plan* of this *political Farce* was *preconcerted* with the *very Man*, whoſe Conduct was thereby to have been examined into; and *ſo firmly* are we perſuaded of this, that were we to ſee the *ſame Scene reviv'd*, on a late Occaſion, we ſhould make *no Scruple* to pronounce, the ſame would be the Iſſue, *mutatis mutandis*; becauſe a *Coalition* of *Tr——rs*, who *hang together through Intereſt*, and for their *mutual Safety*, will always be found *too ſtrong* for a *Coalition* of *lukewarm* and *indolent*, though otherwiſe *honeſt*, Men, who have *no ſuch coercive Cement*, to *hold them together*.

It may well be imagined, that this *colluſive J--gg---g*, this *ſcandalous Defeat* of *national Juſtice*, gave every *thinking Perſon* the moſt *melancholy Apprehenſions*; as it was a *certain Preſage*, no ſuch Thing was to be expected for the future; and a *ſure Indication*, that *every Offender*, (we mean *every great one*, *every publick one*,) might be *ſatisfied*, he ſhould hereafter *eſcape with Impunity*, eſpecially if

his

his Pockets were *well lined.* This was neither more nor leſs than eſtabliſhing a kind of Sanction, by Preeedent, for all manner of *publick V——y*, and *Rapine:* It is no wonder, then, that *little R——s* ſhould be *fond* of copying after their Superiors, and hope for the ſame *good Fortune*; and to this undoubtedly, it was owing, that our Streets lately *ſwarm'd* with ſuch *deſperate Aſſaſſins*, and *Banditti*; though, thank Heaven, it as yet holds true,

That little Villains muſt ſubmit to Fate,
Whilſt GREAT ONES *may enjoy the World*
IN STATE.

From theſe *audacious Inſtanceo*, however, of the *outragious* and *unprecedented Wickedneſs* of theſe *happy Times*, behold O *Britons!* the *bleſſed Effects* of CORRUPTION!

To return, from whence we have digreſs'd, though this *unexpected*, and indeed *unaccountable Eſcape*, of an *overgrown Criminal*, (a *Criminal* almoſt generally given up, even by his *beſt Friends*, in private Converſation,) *alarm'd* and *ſhock'd*, as we obſerv'd before, all who were *heartily concerned* for the *Welfare* of their *Country*, and were not *yet more blind* than Lord *Wharton*'s PUPPIES, who *could ſee* when they were *actually ſinking*, which ſome *Britons* either *cannot* or *will not*;

not; though this *odd Eſcape*, and *open Mock* of *Juſtice*, we ſay, conſiderably alarm'd them, it was far from being the *only Shock*, or *Diſappointment*, they received.

It had been uſual, for ſeveral Years, for a certain Gentleman to bring up a Bill, to limit the Number of Placemen in the *H——e* of *C——ns*; it was his *favourite Bill*, and he *valued* himſelf *not a little* upon it; but this Gentleman having ſtept into one of the M———'s Places, and having apparently changed his Mind, with his Office, deferr'd doing according to Cuſtom, which induced another M——r to bring it up in his Stead. Upon opening the Debate, all Eyes, as may eaſily be imagined, were turned upon the aforeſaid Gentleman, to obſerve how he would behave on that Occaſion; for, though he had been ſometime ſuſpected, of not being *found at Bottom*, they cou'd not conceive, with what Argument, or with what ———, he cou'd *oppoſe a Bill*, for which he had *ſo long*, and ſo *loudly*, declared himſelf an *Advocate*.

To their great Surprize, however, this was a Step he had the —— COURAGE to take; and that without the *leaſt Shadow* of any Argument but this; that it was a Bill his *M——y* had long been *prejudiced* againſt, and *jealous of*, as an indirect Attack upon his Prerogative, and therefore it would be proper to wait till he was better reconciled to

it, from having it repreſented to him in another Light, (which it ſhould be *his Endeavour* to do;) and ſhould teſtify his Approbation of it; in which Caſe, it would come with a much better Grace from the C—n, and might be certain of Succeſs. — *Riſum teneatis Amici?* Did ever any One know the C—n, *willingly forego* the leaſt Branch of its Power? Or did ever any One know a modern M——— *honeſt enough* to adviſe it, however *ſalutary*, or *expedient?* It is a plain Sign, *how hard* the poor Gentleman was *put to it*, for an Excuſe! In Compaſſion, therefore, to all Gentlemen, who may hereafter find themſelves in ſuch *unfortunate Circumſtances*, to be obliged to *blow Hot* and *Cold* with the ſame Breath, and *oppoſe* one Day, what they have *earneſtly ſtickled* for not many Months before, we beg Leave to tell them a Story, whereof we give them free Permiſſion to make their own Uſe.

The late famous old Serjeant *Maynard*, a Man, not only an able Lawyer, but no Stranger to *Wit* and *Humour*, happening to be retained one Morning in a Cauſe on the Plaintiff's Side, and having exerted himſelf, as uſual, in Support thereof, concluded all his Arguments with this earneſt Aſſeveration; *My Lord, my Lord, this is good Law, I know it to be ſo, and I will ſtand by it.* The old Serjeant was generally well heard by the Bench,

Bench, and his Opinion had great Weight with them, and accordingly he carried his Point: But, unluckily for the old Gentleman, the Afternoon of the very ſame Day, he was retained in a ſimular Cauſe, but on the Defendant's Side, in the ſame Court; when likewiſe the very ſame Judge happen'd to be upon the Bench. When it came to the Serjeant's Turn to plead, he again exerted himſelf in Defence of his Client, but with Arguments quite the Reverſe of what he had uſed in the Morning, concluding, with the ſame identical Aſſeveration, *My Lord, I know this to be Law, and I will ſtand by it.* The Judge, ſomewhat ſurprized at this ſudden Change of the old Gentleman's Sentiments, and yet more ſo, at his poſitive Manner of Maintaining and Aſſerting their Infallibity, cry'd out, *Heyday!* Brothe *Maynard*, have you forgot that this very Morning you ſupported the quite contrary, and ſeem'd very clear in your Opinion? No, my Lord, not at all, anſwer'd the Serjeant, no ways confounded. How comes your Mind then ſo much alter'd, reply'd the Judge? *Ah! my Lord, my Lord*, rejoin'd the Serjeant, *Older and Wiſer, Older and Wiſer.* Whether this quick Repartee made any Impreſſion or not upon his Lordſhip, we will not pretend to ſay; but, however, that be, it ſet the reſt of the Council in a general

Laugh, and did not prevent his carrying the *Nick-name* of *Older and Wiſer* to the Day of his Death.

Raillery apart, upon a Subject ſo melancholy and important, next to confeſſing the *true Motive* of their Change, which thoſe pliable *Gentry* will take great Care to avoid, we know not any better Excuſe they can have Recourſe to; they will derive, at leaſt, one Advantage from thence, that it is impoſſible any One in *this World* ſhould be able to prove to the contrary; and as for *the next*, few *Great Men*, now-a-days, give themſelves *any Trouble* or *Concern* about it. The Publick may, indeed, *ſuſpect them ſtrongly*, and wonder whence they get this *enlightening Eye-Salve*, which has ſo *ſuddenly illuminated* their *intellectual Opticks*; but, they may *comfort* themſelves with the Aſſurance, there is *no Window* in their Breaſts, and that no One but the *All-ſeeing Judge*, can penetrate into the *dark Mazes* and *Receſſes* of their *gloomy Hearts*.

Thus have we ſeen all Hopes of *Juſtice* upon our *Oppreſſor*, and an *effectual Place-Bill* vaniſh at once *in Fumo*; that is, all Hopes of making a ſevere Example of one *overgrown Plunderer*, and *Corrupter*, in order to deter others, by his Puniſhment, *from purſuing the ſame Track*, and of preventing *Corruption* in *M——rs* of the *L—r H—e*, defeated

defeated probably for ever. Two ſhocking Diſappointments it muſt be confeſs'd, but not the only or yet the *worſt Mortifications*, the Publick were to meet with from the new *M——y:* On the contrary, as if they thought, the Patience of the Nation would never be tired out, and like *judicially infatuated Rehoboam*, having taken Counſel of the young Men, were reſolved to make their *little Finger heavier* than the *Loins* of their Predeceſſor, they added *freſh Grievances*, to thoſe under which we before labour'd, without *removing one ſingle one* of all that numerous Train; we had almoſt ſaid, without the *Shadow* of an *Attempt* to *remove one.*

That we may not be charg'd, however, with endeavouring to exaggerate Matters, for indeed there is no manner of need to repreſent even the D—l *blacker* than he is, we muſt own, they did obtain for Us ſomewhat, to which they were pleaſed to give the Name of a *Place-Bill*, by which Thirteen Place-Men are to be excluded from Seats in the Houſe of Commons, after the Expiration of the preſent Parliament. As this is the *only Shadow* of an *Attempt*, the then *new M—rs* ever made, towards *redreſſing any one* of *our Grievances*; and as they *valued themſelves highly* thereupon; inſomuch that their *profeſs'd Champion*, the *profligate Author* of *Faction detected*, has the *conſummate Aſſu-*

rance to call it the *moſt truly popular* Law, that ever was obtained by this Nation, we will beg Leave to enter a little into the Merits of it.

And *firſt*, then, it is not to *take place*, as has been before obſerved, until after the Expiration of the preſent Parliament. Now, this Law, ſuch as it is, muſt neceſſarily be either *good* or *bad*, *beneficial*, or *prejudicial*: If it is the *former*, why was it to take place *no ſooner?* Why are we deprived of the Advantage of it *ſo long?* If it is the *latter*, why is it to be in Force *ſo ſoon?* Why is it ever to be in Force *at all?* Again, but *Thirteen* Place-Men are even then to be excluded, and does not every one ſee, how ſmall a Way this will go, towards keeping the Ballance even, in Caſe of Neceſſity, between the *Court* and the *Country?* And, *laſtly*, even ſuch as it is, it *may*, and very probably *will*, be *repealed*, in the laſt Seſſion of this very Parliament, ſo that we may not ever reap any, even the leaſt Benefit from thence. From all theſe Particulars, it is very evident, the *ſole Deſign* of this Bill was, *to ſtop the Mouths* of the People for a while, and to *furniſh* the then *new M——y* with a *Pretence*, *poor* as it was, of having *done Something* for the *Advantage* of the *Publick*.

To return from whence we have digreſs'd. *The Repeal of the Septennial Law*, was another

ther Article, whereupon the People had ſet their Hearts very much, and for which the *new M——rs, while Leaders of the Oppoſition*, had *frequently* and *ſtrongly* contended; but, alas! how truly might they now ſay with the Poet,

Tempora mutantur, & nos mutamur in illis.

It was a Law *highly proper*, *highly expedient*, nay, *abſolutely neceſſary* before they came into Power; but now it was quite the Reverſe; it was *deſtructive*, *ruinous*, and *pregnant with all Manner of Evils*. Now, can any *honeſt* and *impartial* Man, who makes the very leaſt Uſe of his Senſes, *avoid being ſhock'd*, at ſuch *amazing*, *bare-fac'd Perfidy*, or *help deteſting* the Authors of it?

The Repeal of the Septennial Law, and Revival of the Triennal, was one of the Conditions, *ſine qua non*, of ceaſing their Oppoſition; when it originally paſſed, it was, by one of the moſt *extraordinary Stretches* of *Power*, that was ever till then heard of, in a Parliament which had been, at firſt, legally choſen: Accordingly, it was declared and acknowledged, by thoſe who brought it in, and ſupported it, that, nothing but the then *tickliſh Situation* of Affairs, and the *Ferment* the Nation was in at that Time by Reaſon of a *late Rebellion*, and the Proceed-

ings conſequent thereon, which had occaſion'd *much ill Blood*, and which, probably, a new Election might greatly contribute to increaſe,) cou'd have render'd it *excuſable* or *neceſſary*; and they were aſſured, before the Term limited in the Bill expired, and as ſoon as that dangerous Criſis was over, it ſhould be repealed, (being deſigned only for a *temporary Law*,) and the Parliaments would return to their old Duration of three Years.

Now, upon this we can't forbear making ſome few Obſervations. *Firſt*, that *this Law*, which that *honeſt P——t* thought fit ſo *unwarrantably* to *break through*, (by their own Authority) was Part of the *Act of Settlement*, which was *ſo ſacred*, that it was almoſt interwoven with our Conſtitution. *Secondly*, that, though it had been declared, to have been deſigned only for a temporary Law, none of thoſe Gentlemen, even who had oppoſed it, in the ſtrongeſt Manner, had the *Integrity* to move for the *Repeal* of it, at leaſt for fifteen Years after its Expiration. *Thirdly*, that it is a *moſt dangerous Precedent*, and ought to be eras'd out of all our Records, and, if poſſible, out of the Memory of Mankind; ſince, it is very evident, by the ſame Power, that the aforeſaid P——— continued themſelves for four Years beyond their legal Term, any future P——— may continue themſelves for ever.

In

In ſhort, to ſet the *Monſtrouſneſs* of this *unjuſtifiable Stretch of Power*, in a *right Light*, let us only ſuppoſe a parallel Caſe: A Gentleman agrees with a *Steward*, or deputes a Man his *Attorney*, for a Year certain; at the End of that Term he expects him to give an Account of his Behaviour, and either to reſign his Truſt, or apply to him for a freſh Deputation, or longer Continuance therein: *No*, ſays the *honeſt Steward* or *Attorney*, *I will continue* or *depute myſelf* for four Years longer. Would not any one be *amazed at ſuch Impudence*? Nay, wou'd any Man of *common Senſe*, CONFIRM any of the Acts of the ſaid *Steward*, or *Attorney*, after the Expiration of the ſaid Term, even tho' they tended greatly to his own Advantage? And that for this obvious Reaſon; becauſe it would be ſetting a Precedent, for another to treat him in the ſame Manner, who might not make ſo good a Uſe of his *Self-delegated Power*.

If no Man wou'd put up with ſuch Treatment in his private Concerns, why ſhould he acquieſce therewith in thoſe of the Nation? Are they not *cloſely interwoven* the one with the other? How wretchedly muſt they reaſon, who think and act otherwiſe? But, to put it quite out of Diſpute, that they are *abſolutely inſeparable*; let us again ſuppoſe a poſſible Caſe: A Stranger, who appears like a Gentleman, (we ſay *appears*, becauſe

becauſe all are not ſo who make that Appearance now-a-days) comes to an honeſt Tradeſman, and offers him a Purſe of Gold; *Friend*, quoth he, all this is at your Service, upon *one trifling Condition*; the Tradeſman dazzled, perhaps, with the Sight of ſuch a Sum, as having ſeldom or never been Maſter of the like at one Time, asks him eagerly what it is; aſſuring him of his Readineſs to comply, if the Terms are any thing reaſonable. Oh! ſays the Gentleman, the eaſieſt in the World; only that you will allow me, for the *Space of Seven Years*, TO TAKE WHAT SUMS FROM YOU I PLEASE, and to SUBJECT YOURSELF AND FAMILY TO WHAT PENALTIES I THINK FIT: The Tradeſman ſtartled pretty much *heſitates*, (tho' by-the-bye, one would wonder he ſhould *heſitate at all*) and away walks the Gentleman for that Time.

Soon after the honeſt Man goes to the Ale-Houſe or Coffee-Houſe, and meeting with ſome of his Neighbours, tells them what an Offer he had lately; adding that the Sum was mighty convenient for him, and he ſhould have jump'd at it, had he not been ſtartled at the Condition, which might, perhaps, bring him into ſome Scrape; tho' he cou'd not but own the Gentleman look'd very good-natur'd, and like a Perſon of Honour.

Lord,

Lord, cries one of his *hopeful Emiſſaries*, planted there on purpoſe to inveigle Fools, can you doubt it! the moſt generous and beſt humour'd Man in the World! Beſides, he is Maſter of a prodigious Eſtate, and ſpends his Money like a Prince; nay, if he once takes a Fancy to you, he would make nothing of getting you a Place, ſhould do your Buſineſs at once: Come, here's his Health. Before *George*, ſays the poor well-meaning Wretch, I ſhould like that main-well, but the plaguy Condition, why ſhou'd he deſire that? Lord, you Fool you, ſays the *infernal Agent*, don't you ſee it is only in Joke! What ſhould he want with your Money, do you think he has not enough of his own? And what ſhou'd he do with your Family, he has more Servants already by half than he makes uſe of? Beſides, you muſt confide in ſome Body; don't you now truſt your Houſe, and every thing to your Foreman, and 'Prentices? Is there any doing Buſineſs without it? And do you think, ſuch a *fine*, ſuch a *worthy*, ſuch a *noble* Gentleman, does not deſerve as much Confidence as them?

To cut ſhort the Story, the innocent Tradeſman, not knowing what Reply to make, to theſe and the like plauſible Arguments, ſuggeſted by this Subſtitute of *Lucifer*, and being, beſides, ſtrongly ſollicited within

within by his own avaritious Deſires, and ſtagger'd by the preſent Temptation of the Purſe, agrees to his Ruin, and like *Eſau*, for a *Meſs of Pottage*, SELLS himſelf and his Poſterity *for perpetual Bond-ſlaves*. Wou'd any Man in his right Senſes do this, were the Caſe thus *fairly ſtated* to him? Would any one truſt his moſt intimate and deareſt Acquaintance, in ſuch a Caſe, unleſs he were fully convinc'd, at the ſame time, of his Honeſty? Would he ſuffer himſelf to be overcome by ſuch ſophiſtical Arguments, becauſe enforc'd by a preſent dirty Bribe? Methinks we hear every one haſtily anſwer, *No certainly*, No one can be ſo *abject* and *ſordid*: Not too haſty, good Friends; this is *no more* than is done by Hundreds and Thouſands, once in Seven Years.

Begging Pardon for theſe Digreſſions, which nothing but the Importance of the Subject could excuſe, we proceed now to the Bill for *Repealing the Septennial Law*, which, during the Time of the *New M——y's pretended Patriotiſm*, had been declared not only *highly reaſonable*, but *abſolutely neceſſary*, as was before obſerved, and accordingly agreed to be one of the *chief Grievances* to be *redreſs'd*: Purſuant, therefore, to theſe *Declarations*, and this Agreement, it was brought in, by one of the Members of the Oppoſition, after the *new M——rs* had *deſerted them*

them, and made a *ſhameful Compromiſe* for themſelves, and their Creatures, as has been already related.

Had theſe *worthy Gentry* conſented to the *actual Redreſs* of *this Grievance*, and not oppoſed the Bill, it would have given the Public *ſome Hopes* of them, and very probably might have induced them to acquieſce the *more quietly*, with thoſe *unreaſonable*, *weak*, and *expenſive Meaſures* into which they thought proper to engage, for Reaſons *altogether foreign* to *Great Britain*. But this would have been too great a Condeſcenſion in ſuch Heroes; who were determin'd not to yield an Inch, as being above courting Popularity, and therefore threw it out; and this upon no other Pretence, but that ſtale one, that the *Time was improper*; whereas, in Truth, no Time can be improper for the *Repeal of ſuch a Law*, if that can properly be call'd a Law, whereof ſome have been in Doubt, the Enacting of which gave the *greateſt Wound* to the *Conſtitution* that ever it *ſuffer'd*, ſince the Abdication of King *James* II.

The *Riot Act* alſo, was another Law, whoſe Repeal we hoped from them; ſince the paſſing of it could not be excuſed by any Thing, but the Tumultuouſneſs of thoſe Times when it was brought in; if indeed *any Pretence* whatever *could excuſe* the paſſing ſuch a Law, amongſt a, till then, *free People*.

The

The moderate Men of all Parties have agreed it ought to be repealed; neither would there have been any Probability of its ever having been carried, had not Aſſurances been given, it ſhould be *only temporary*, and till the People were better reconciled to the *Succeſſion* in the preſent Family. Divers of thoſe Members, who to the *eternal Reproach* of their Prudence, had concurred in giving their Aſſent thereto, had ſince declared, they never repented ſo much of any one Vote they had given; and, indeed, well they might, ſince it would have been *much ſafer*, and *more expedient*, to have acquieſced with the Crown's exerting that Power, which is at all Times veſted in the *ſupreme executive Part* of every Government, namely, that of providing for the Safety of the State, by any Means, upon any ſudden and unforeſeen Emergencies.

This, we ſay, would have been *much more eligible*, and *full as effectual*; becauſe it is not to be ſuppoſed, that *any Mobs*, would have *dared* to *perſiſt*, in *Oppoſition* to the *Law*, or *any Acts of Violence*, when they found the Government determin'd to make uſe of the *Military Arm*, and to ſhew them no Mercy. This, then, not being to be apprehended, nor any ways credible, it is evident, theſe Tumults could not have been of long Continuance; all Things would ſoon have return'd

to

to their old Courſes and Peace and Safety wou'd have been reſtor'd, without the enacting of this *dreadful Law*; after which, if it had been thought needful, any *Extremities* and *Severities*, to which the Government had been obliged to have Recourſe, on that Occaſion, might have been *legitimated*, if we may be allowed that Expreſſion, by a Bill brought in *ex poſt Facto*.

This might have been done, as has been obſerved, and, indeed, it is ſomething ſurprizing, it was not put in Practice at that Juncture; eſpecially, when the Efficacy of ſuch a Procedure had been ſeen not many Years before, (and muſt be freſh in all their Memories,) on a ſimilar Occaſion; we mean in the Queen's Reign, when the Mobs riotouſly aſſembled, with Intent to pull down all the Meetings. The Tumults were then, at leaſt, equal to what they were afterwards, and yet they were ſoon diſperſed and quelled by the Guards alone; and, on the Execution of one or two of the Ringleaders, which ſtruck a Terror into the People, they return'd quietly to their reſpective Vocations. As this ſalutary Method, therefore, was not followed, we ſay, though they had ſuch a recent Inſtance of its *Efficacy* and *Utility*, before their Eyes, we can't help *ſuſpecting*, whoever were the *Adviſers*, and *Promoters* of this *ſanguinary Bill*, ſo *pregnant* with *Miſchief*, had

had more an Eye to their own Advantage, than to that of their Master, or the *Welfare* of their Country.

In Effect, 'tis hardly possible to conceive, (besides the Cases at which it seems *directly* levell'd) with what a *dreadful Power*, this terrible Bill, arms a *desperate*, *abandon'd M—r*, (such as we have formerly been *curs'd with*,) *indirectly*; by Means of those *infernal Agents*, *trading J——s*, and *busy little Jacks* in Office, such as those in the *Excise*, and *Customs*. These are never wanting; and thereof such a *Profligate* never fails of making a *suitable Use*, to *harrass such* as have incurr'd his *Displeasure*; though, perhaps, no other Way, than by standing up for their *Liberties* and *Properties*.

Were this duly consider'd, would any Gentleman, who had *any Value*, for whatever ought to be *most dear* to a *Briton*, suffer such a Law to hang over our Heads, *in Terrorem*, one Hour longer than was *absolutely unavoidable*, though he were reduc'd to the Necessity of *tacking* a Bill for the *Repeal* of it, to one of those for *Supplies*; the *only possible Way*, we have often found of obtaining the Royal Assent thereto: The Cr--n, or rather the *M—y*, having been *seldom willing*, to part with any Branch of Power, which has once been *unwarily* or *thoughtlessly* conceded to them. Have we not seen, of late Years, *two alarming Instances*, what

what a *hopeful Uſe* may be made of this *deſtructive Scourge*, when in the Hands of a *thorough-pac'd Tool* of Power?

In one of theſe, did not a *late honeſt Rec——r*, of this great City, endeavour to *influence* a Jury, to bring in *divers innocent Men*, as guilty of a Riot; (had he not been prevented by the *Courage* and *Prudence* of the then Lord Mayor;) when it plainly appear'd, upon the Tryal, that they were only harmleſly *rejoicing*, for the Defeat of the *deteſtable Exciſe Scheme*; and that, if there was *any Riot*, it was begun by the *M——l Party*, who *ſallied* out of a *neighbouring Tavern*, where they had *planted themſelves* for *that Purpoſe*, and *inſulted* them, by *endeavouring* to *put out* their *Bonefire?* But the *other* was yet *more extraordinary*, and might have been of yet infinitely more dangerous Conſequence, as it might have affected divers Noblemen, with ſeveral Gentlemen of Fortune and Diſtinction. Not long after, the paſſing of the Act, for licenſing of the Stage, a Company of *French Actors* arrived in Town, to the no *ſmall Surprize* of the Publick; having been invited over, as was whiſper'd about, for the Entertainment of a certain *well known foreign Lady*, who did not underſtand *Engliſh*; and came hither, as was preſumed, on an *Errand* of *much greater Weight*, than to learn our Tongue. How-

ever that be, ſoon after their Arrival, Notice was given, to the *yet greater Aſtoniſhment* of Mankind, that theſe *Monſieurs* and *Mesdemoiſelles*, were to oblige the Publick, with one of their *excellent Performances*, at the little Theatre in the *Haymarket*; and what was *more amazing ſtill*, theſe Words, BY AUTHORITY, in large Characters, were inſerted in the Bills.

The *Licenſing Act* itſelf had gone very much *againſt the Grain*, and that for ſeveral Reaſons: *Firſt*, as it ſeemed *very hard*, to ſay no more, that *the Innocent ſhould ſuffer for the Guilty*; and that, becauſe one particular Author had made a licentious Uſe of his Talent, others, who would not do the ſame, ſhould be involv'd in the ſame Puniſhment, and be, in a Manner, totally debarr'd from the Uſe of theirs. *Secondly*, as it veſted a Power, and that an *Arbitrary One*, in the L— C——— for the Time being, which, however well qualify'd the preſent might be to execute, it was very unlikely that all his Succeſſors ſhould; unleſs it were to be ſuppoſed, as it was not, that a *Capacity for judging was annexed* to the Office, and tranſferrable therewith. *Thirdly*, as it tended viſibly to prevent the Production of any Thing that was *great* and *noble*, or, that was penn'd with *Spirit* and *Humour*, at leaſt in the Dramatick Kind; ſince it was not likely, any

Man

Man of Genius, would be at the Pains of writing a good Play, when it was forty to one whether he ſhould get it acted afterwards. *Fourthly*, that it was depriving the Town of their *moſt favourite Diverſions*, and obliging them either to be contented, with *Pantomimes*, *Farce*, and *Nonſenſe*, or to have nothing. And, *Fifthly*, that it was an evident Attempt towards *taking away the Liberty of the Preſs*, with which all the Branches of our Liberties are cloſely interwoven; and towards the undermining whereof, this ſeemed only a preliminary Step.

For all theſe Reaſons, this Act, as has been already obſerved, had gone ſore againſt the Grain; notwithſtanding which, the Publick had quietly ſubmitted thereto, on purpoſe to deprive the *M——y* of any, the leaſt Shadow of Complaint; but when they found, though an *Engliſh* Play if tolerable, could not be allow'd to paſs Muſter, a *French* one was not only readily accepted, or, at leaſt, connived at, but uſher'd into the World with thoſe pompous Words, By Authority; *ſtung* with the *Reflection*, that *greater Indulgence* ſhould be given to *Foreigners*, than our *own Countrymen*, *divers Noblemen* and *Gentlemen* form'd a ſtrong Party, and were determin'd to prevent their acting.

Whether ſuch their Deſign got Wind, or whether, from the Reaſon of the Thing alone, it was ſuſpected, as it reaſonably might, that the Audience would expreſs their Reſentment of this Partiality in the Ch———n, we will not pretend to determine; but, upon the Curtain's drawing up, the Spectators were not a little ſurprized, at the Sight of ſome Files of Soldiers, (a Thing unuſual at that Houſe,) planted upon the Stage, as it were to intimidate them, and force their Reception of the Play *nolens, volens*. Exaſperated yet more at this freſh Mark of *Favour* and *Protection*, which they took for an *Inſult* upon themſelves, and indeed the whole Nation, they were yet more fully reſolved, than ever, to exert that Privilege they had enjoyed, from Time immemorial, of ſilencing any Play they did not approve.

Accordingly, as ſoon as the Actors appeared, the whole Houſe reſounded with the Noiſe of Cat-calls, Bells, Hiſſing, Whooping, Hollaing, and Shouting, inſomuch that it was impoſſible for the Actors to go on. Upon which, a certain very active *J*——, who has ſince been rewarded with a handſome Place, for his Zeal on many Occaſions, whether he had been previouſly ordered ſo to do, in caſe of any Tumult, or, whether he was only incited thereto, by his Pity to his

his Countrymen in Diſtreſs, attempted to *draw a Proclamation* upon the Audience; but, finding by their Looks, and ſome Motions, that, if he proceeded, he muſt expect to be very ſcurvilly treated, he was glad to put it up, faſter than he drew it out, and to ſteal away himſelf as ſlily as he could.

Now, from theſe two notorious Inſtances, it is very evident, what ill Purpoſes this Act may be made to ſerve; nothing being more plain, than that, had not the aforeſaid Gentleman's Courage fail'd him, above a Hundred Gentlemen of Family and Fortune, nay, and ſome Noblemen, might have incurr'd the Guilt of Felony, and been try'd for their Lives. We ſay, this not only might, but, very probably, would have been the Conſequences; ſince it is not to be ſuppoſed, that ſo many Men of Diſtinction and Spirit, (eſpecially being irritated by ſuch an Affront) animated by each other, and conſcious they came thither only to aſſert the Honour of their Country, without any Deſign to offend the Government, would have diſperſed from a Place of publick Entertainment, at the Word of Command of ſuch a *contemptible*, and *officious* Emiſſary.

If ſuch, therefore, might have been the *terrible Conſequence* of this *dreadful Law*, and that to Perſons of ſuch a Rank, through the *Imprudence*, or rather *Impudence* and *Raſhneſs*

of a *petty J*——, we think it high Time Gentlemen ſhould conſider, upon *what a Foot their Liberties* may ſome Time or other *ſtand*; and that ſome Method ſhould be taken, for the *Redreſs* of ſo *enormous a Grievance*; nay, we *are amazed*, after ſuch an *audacious Attempt*, it was not the *very firſt Bill*, brought into the Houſe, the following Seſſion; and made the Condition, *ſine qua non*, of granting Supplies. Upon this Head all Parties ought to unite; nay, upon this Head, all Parties, would, and muſt unite, if ever they expect, or deſire its Repeal, for the Reaſon beforementioned; namely, that it will never be given up voluntarily, nor without ſome valuable Conſideration; and whoever ſhould move for it otherwiſe, than by tacking it to a Money-Bill, though it were in a Time of the moſt profound Peace and Tranquillity, we fear, would certainly have the Mortification of ſeeing it thrown out, upon ſome frivolous Pretence, or other.

To prevent this, therefore, let Us take the only poſſible Way of inſuring its Succeſs; for whilſt this Act ſhall be ſuffer'd to continue in Force, *Paſſive Obedience* and *Non Reſiſtance* are actually *eſtabliſh'd by Law*; and though our Liberties are in no Danger, under any of the preſent Royal Family, yet born, yet ſhould ſome future arbitrary Prince

ariſe,

ariſe, who ſhould follow the Example of the late King *James* II. claim a *Diſpenſing Power*, and ſet up his Will for the Law of the Land, we ſhould not have any the moſt diſtant Chance for ſaving ourſelves; ſince wherever Five were aſſembled, if they did not diſperſe within an Hour after reading the Proclamation, which would be in the Power of every *buſy Fellow of a Petty Conſtable*, they would incurr the Penalty of Death, and might be tryed one Hour, and hang'd up the next.

Beſides, now is the only Time, becauſe the Repeal of this Act, is never to be expected but under a good Monarch; who may poſſibly be prevailed on, to part with a Power, he is not inclined to uſe; whereas, under one of a contrary Temper, there would be no Hopes of its being given up; ſince he would rather delight in making us know, it was impendent over our Heads, like a drawn Sword, ready to exterminate the whole Race.

In Effect, ſorry are we to ſay it, but it is very certain, there have not been many Princes, who have had the *Magnanimity* and *Good Senſe* of *Henry* IV. of *France*. This great Monarch having fought his Way to that Crown through a thouſand Dangers; and being peaceably ſettled thereon, in ſpite of the helliſh Machinations of his open and ſecret

Enemies, happen'd, upon ſome Occaſion, to be at the City of *Rochelle*, a ſtrong Fortreſs, then the Bulwark of the Proteſtant Intereſt in that Kingdom; and ſecured by great Privileges, and Immunities, from the Arbitrary Incroachments of their Princes.

Hereupon, one of his Attendants, whether an Embaſſador, or one of his own Subjects, we cannot recollect at preſent, took thence the Liberty to rally his Majeſty on the little Power he had within theſe Walls; *You are miſtaken*, ſaid that Prince, looking on him, with a *Noble Contempt*, and with *a Greatneſs of Soul*, never to be enough extoll'd, *I have as much Power here, as I deſire; I can do all the Good I pleaſe:* An Anſwer, *worthy of a Hero*, ſuch as he truly was, and deſerving to be written in *Characters of Gold!*

In the Name of Wonder, what greater Power would any one covet? It is as much as *God himſelf* enjoys; for he cannot do Miſchief, it is contrary to his Nature: And yet, we believe, we ſhould not wrong the preſent King of *P*——, nor ſome other Crown'd Heads, to ſay; Had any ſuch Speech been made to them, they would never have *reſted*, till they uſed their utmoſt Endeavours, either by *Fraud*, or *Force*, to have render'd themſelves Maſters of the Place. In ſhort, what other Motive, but to have the

the *diabolical* Power of doing Miſchief, would induce *Lewis* XIV. in Defiance of all the Ties of Gratitude, and Common Honeſty, to beſiege that Fortreſs, and repeal the Edict of *Nantz*, many Years afterwards? Nay, what other Motive *now animates* his *Anti-Chriſtian M—y*, with his *hopeful Brother* of *P———*, and the *Fury* of *S——*, though poſſeſs'd of ſuch extenſive Dominions themſelves, to ravage thoſe of the Queen of *Hungary*, in *open Violation* of all the *Ties* of *Religion*, *Morality*, and even *Humanity*?

But we have dwelt too long on a Subject ſo diſagreeable; paſs we on to the other Articles, in the *black Catalogue* of the Sins, of our late *fallen Angels*. Not to mention the *Repeal* of the *Waltham* and *Smuggling* Acts, though both undoubtedly implied under the Head of *Redreſs of Grievances*; ſince the *former* has armed the ——— with a new and ſignal Power, utterly unknown to our Anceſtors; and the *latter* ſeems to be calculated moſtly for the *Safety* of People unworthy of it, by rendering it *dangerous* for any three honeſt Men, travelling about their lawful Occaſions, to carry any Arms for their Defence, though they ſhould be obliged, for want of the Convenience of Remittances, to take with them ſuch Sums, as, if loſt, would go near to ruin them: (But ſuch a Scheme was not to be wonder'd at, under

under such an A———; it was no more than *natural*, meer *brotherly Kindness*.) Not to mention, then, we say the *Repeal* of these, as *too trifling*, when so many others of *greater Importance* demand our Consideration, proceed we to that of the *Standing-Army*.

Now, if ever any one Proposition, had been *affected* and *maintained*, more *strenuously*, and *expressly* than another, it was; that keeping up a *numerous Body* of *Land-Forces*, was *incompatible* with the *Constitution* of this Kingdom, and the *Liberties* of the People; and Monsieur *D-str-ct-n* was particularly *vehement* and *explicit* upon this Head: The *disbanding* therefore, of the major Part of the Troops, then on foot, was absolutely *insisted on*, *agreed to*, and *promised*, by *all*, in the Opposition, as a Preliminary, not to be receded from, to their coming to any Terms with the G———. It was what, if not granted, was not to admit of any Debate, but to break off all farther Conferences; and yet, no sooner did these Gentlemen enter into Power, than, far from performing this Condition they ran *infinitely greater Lengths*, and *harrass'd the People more*, (and to as little Purpose) than any of their Predecessors.

Again, our *useless* and *expensive Naval Armaments*, with the *Neglect* of *providing Convoys*, and *securing our Channel*, by a *proper Number* of *small Cruizers*, by which our

Mer-

Merchants were *greatly diſtreſs'd*, and *our Commerce*, in a Manner, *wholly interrupted*, was *imputed*, and *juſtly* too, to our *late Grand Vizier* as an *inexcuſable Miſdemeanor*, to call it no worſe; and how was the *Matter mended*, under his *Succeſſor?* Why, truly, to uſe a vulgar Expreſſion, juſt like *Sour Ale in Summer*.

Another *Grand*, and *Material Objection*, to the Conduct of the late *Primier*, was, that, whilſt he was inceſſantly labouring, without *any Conſcience*, or *Mercy*, to *extend* the *Power*, and *enlarge* the *Revenue* and *Influence* of the ——, he never once propoſed a *ſingle Law*, for the *Benefit*, or *Eaſe*, of the *People*; nor would *ſuffer one to paſs*, when propoſed by others, if he could *obſtruct* it; but *diſcouraged* all ſuch Attempts in their Favour, to the utmoſt of his Power: Of this, his *Want of Bowels* to his *poor Countrymen*, they enumerated many Inſtances; and Two in particular, not to mention any more, each of them of *great Importance*, though one of them *infinitely greater* than the other.

The firſt of theſe was, that whilſt with *indefatigable Induſtry*, and *remorſeleſs Cruelty*, he puſh'd on the *Black Act*, the *Smuggling Act*, with divers others of that *odious Catalogue*, and eſpecially the *deteſtable Exciſe Scheme*, he never cou'd be prevailed on, to give Ear to any Propoſal, for preventing the

Smuggling

Smuggling of Wool, though that ſingle Article is of a Hundred Times more Conſequence to theſe Kingdoms, than all the *Deer* in the Nation, together with as much *Tea*, *Brandy*, *Tobacco*, and *Wine*, as cou'd poſſibly be *clandeſtinely imported*, allowing an equal Space of Time, for eluding the Law, in each of theſe Particulars.

The *other*, though of leſs Moment, (yet of ſufficient to *demand the Attention* of any Man, was, that, notwithſtanding *it was notorious*, in the late *exceſſively ſevere Winter*, what *Advantages* the *Coal-Merchants* took, by an *illegal Combination*, of the *Neceſſities* of the *Poor*, and to what *intolerable Hardſhips* they were thereby driven, even to the *Loſs* of *many Lives*, yet ſo little were their *inexpreſſible Calamities* worthy his *Notice*, that he cou'd not *find Leiſure*, to bring in a Bill, to prevent ſuch *Extortion* for the future. Would one think any One, *born of a Woman*, cou'd be *endued* with ſo *little Compaſſion?* And yet, both theſe were *excuſable* in him, who had *never profeſs'd* himſelf a *Friend* to the *People*, *neither was truſted* by them, but was as it were in a *Conſpiracy*, (for we can call it *no better)* to AGGRANDIZE *France*; when we *reflect*, that their *pretended Patrons*, AS MUCH *Enemies* as they *affect to be* to the Houſe of *Bourbon*,

bon, and *as much* as they would be *thought* in the *Intereſt* of the *Publick*, whoſe *Shoulders* were made the *Ladder* whence they *climb'd* to *Honours*, have not *conſider'd* them *one Jot more*, upon either of theſe Heads. We will not add, the *almoſt total Loſs* of the *Fiſhery*, by *their Neglect*, both *at Home* and *Abroad*, becauſe we would not *inflame the Reckoning*.

In Effect, there is no Need; this *black Liſt* of their *Sins of Omiſſion*, will ſcarce admit of *any Addition*, and, we are perſwaded, our Readers will think it *ſufficiently ample*, without *farther Exaggeration*. To ſay the Truth, as much as we are *exaſperated* at their *Proceedings*, and, above all, at the *irreparable Loſs* of *an Opportunity*, we are afraid to *flatter ourſelves* with the *Hopes* of *retrieving*, to procure *Redreſs of Grievances paſt*, and *Reformation* for the *future*, when we think of the *rueful Figure* a certain *diſmal Triumvirate*, whom we have now in our Eye, muſt neceſſarily make, at preſent, in one particular Place; we could almoſt be tempted to *pity* them, though they had *no Pity* upon an *injur'd People*: We believe, they will now have Leiſure ſufficient, to repent their Exchange of a *good Conſcience*, for *Riches*, *Honours*, and *Preferment*; if *they* can *juſtly* be call'd *Honours*, which are purchaſed

chaſed at the Price of *all* that is *moſt valuable* to an *honeſt Man*. We will charitably ſuppoſe they have read *Virgil*, and we wiſh they had improved by it, and remember'd theſe Lines:

TURNO *tempus erit, magno cum optaverit emptum*
Intactum PALLANTA, *&* *cum* Spolia *iſta* Diemque
Oderit ———

Our Readers will perceive we have hitherto confin'd ourſelves, not only to their *Sins of Omiſſion*, but to ſuch Points, as, though they greatly affected us at Home, had little of no Effect upon Affairs Abroad; we ſhall now proceed to ſuch as had a *conſiderable Influence* upon *foreign Courts*, as well as upon our own Nation, and will conſiſt equally of *Things done*, and *Things left undone*.

It will be proper to premiſe, however, with Relation to theſe, that they are thought to be *chiefly*, if *not altogether*, to be *imputed* to the *headſtrong*, *impetuous Temper*, *Self-ſufficiency*, and *thorough-pac'd ſlaviſh Compliance* of one Man, who having *waded into Power* through *thick and thin*, through ſuch a *complicated Scene* of *Perfidy*, *Falſhood*, *Hypocriſy*,

ſy, *Diſſimulation*, and *Ingratitude*, as can *ſcarce* be *match'd*, and cannot be *exceeded*, in any Hiſtory, *ancient* or *modern*, was reſolved, if poſſible, to maintain himſelf therein; by *Means as bad*; *per* FAS *aut* NEFAS, and to *run greater Lengths*, in order to *curry Favour*, than the *very Perſon* whom he had been, for Years, repreſenting, as the *worſt M——r*, and *Scourge*, *God*, in *his Anger*, could ſend, for the *Chaſtiſement* of a *guilty Nation*.

Alas! ſorry are we to ſay it, till the Time of this Perſon's *Re-admiſſion* into Power, we, thought there was *too much Truth* in his Allegations; but he has plainly ſhewn us, we *know not* what Heaven can ſend; though ſo frequently have we been *curs'd* with *wicked* and *corrupt M——rs*, that ſome may think we ſhall ſome Time or other be in the ſame Situation with the poor old Woman of *Syracuſe*, in the Reign of the younger *Dionyſius*.

Every one, who is in the leaſt converſant in Hiſtory, knows, that this Prince was one of the moſt cruel Tyrants upon Record; inſomuch that he had the united Curſes of the whole People, excepting the beforemention'd old Woman, who continually prayed for his long Life. *Dionyſius*, who not only was not a Fool, but had exact Intelligence by the Means of his Spies, whereof he kept

a good Number, of every Thing that paſſed within his Dominions, being inform'd, that whilſt all the reſt of his Subjects were offering up Vows for his Death, this poor Wretch alone prayed for his long Life, (and perhaps being conſcious he deſerved not ſo well at her Hands,) had the Curioſity to ſend for her, and demand the Reaſon of her *extraordinary Zeal*. Sir, ſays the honeſt old Woman, I remember very well, the Prince who held the Scepter before your Father came to the Throne, and he was a *ſad Tyrant*; then ſucceeded your Sire, who was yet *much worſe*; then came your Majeſty, infinitely the *worſt of all*; and therefore I pray for the Continuance of your Days; for if one that exceeds you comes, I am ſure it muſt be the Devil himſelf. We leave the Application of this Story, to thoſe Gentlemen, whom it may moſt concern.

To return then: Our late *pretended Patriot* being now *reinſtated in Power*, and *fully reſolved* not to part with it again, if, as was before obſerved, he could ſupport himſelf in it, *Quoquo pacto*, inſtead of conſulting the Good of the Kingdom, and of his Sovereign, which are *inſeparably interwoven* with each other, began with conſulting the Paſſions of the latter; being determin'd thereon to lay the Foundation of his future

Great-

Greatneſs. Accordingly, as he well knew the particular Attachment of his M——r to his *G——n* Dominions, he concluded to fall in with it, and no Way obſtruct any Scheme, that tended to the Advantage thereof. He was not, nevertheleſs, for his own *Safety*, to enter into any Meaſures, which ſhould, *barefacedly*, ſacrifice the Intereſt of *Great Britain*, to that of a *petty El——te*; no, the Pill was to be gilt, that, however unpalatable, it might go down pretty glibly.

Fortunately for him, and *unhappily* for this Nation, the diſtreſs'd Condition of the Queen of *Hungary*, afforded him an Opportunity, (which he did not fail to improve to the utmoſt,) of *making his Court effectually* to his *M——*, to whom he was before far from being acceptable; and this was, to involve us in a *Land War*, on Pretence of aſſiſting her; from whence, it was judg'd rightly, that, though it cou'd not but be *ruinous* to this Nation, *H——r* might derive *conſiderable Advantages*.

There was alſo another Conſideration, which render'd this Deſign *highly agreeable* to our *S——n*; and was of equal, or greater Weight with him; namely, that it *flat-*

ter'd his *natural Inclination*, by giving him an Opportunity of *diſtinguiſhing* himſelf in the *Field*, at the Head of a *fine Army:* Beſides, it is to be very much queſtion'd, whether his *M——y* knew, or is even yet apprized, that a *Land War* is *utterly prejudicial* to theſe Kingdoms; as likewiſe, whether he might foreſee, (though it is certain, the *M——r* cou'd not avoid it,) that our engaging, *ſo heartily*, at leaſt, *ſeemingly ſo*, though but as *Auxiliaries*, wou'd *infallibly*, and *inevitably*, draw us in afterwards, as *Principals*.

It may be wonder'd at, however, not ſo much how he prevailed on a *numerous A——ly*, to come into ſuch a Scheme, for we daily ſee *great Bodies* much *eaſier wrought upon*, and *convinced*, at leaſt, *ſeeming ſo to be*, than ſingle Perſons; and that by *ſophiſtical Arguments*, whoſe *Fallacy* can be ſeen through by every *ſenſible Mechanick*. It may be wonder'd at, we ſay, not ſo much how he prevail'd on theſe, as how he durſt venture on *ſo deſperate* a Meaſure, in the Face of a People *ſo well inſtructed* in their *true Intereſt*, as thoſe of *Great Britain*.

But, perhaps, to this we ſhall be anſwer'd, it was a Meaſure the whole Kingdom had

long

long and *loudly call'd* for; how then, can they afterwards clamour againſt it? This, we poſitively deny: For, tho' it is true, the *Britiſh Nation*, ever *generous*, and inclin'd to *pity* the *unjuſtly oppreſſed*, eſpecially when of the *Fair Sex*, could not forbear expreſſing the *warmeſt Reſentment*, againſt that *Combination* of *R——l Banditti*, who had *conſpired* to *parcel out* the Dominions of a Princeſs, whoſe *great Qualities*, humanly ſpeaking, render'd her ſo *truly deſerving* of a *better Fate*; tho' we ſay, they expreſs'd the *warmeſt Reſentment* at this, and could gladly wiſh, to ſee ſome *Deliverer* ariſe, it is very certain, it never enter'd into their Heads, that without the Aſſiſtance of the *Dutch*, or any *other Power*, we were to take the *whole inſupportable Eurthen* upon ourſelves.

Eſpecially, they never dream'd of *engaging* in a *Land-War* on that Account; well knowing, that leſs than half the Money, ſuch an Undertaking would coſt us, remitted to her as a Subſidy, would have been of *infinitely more Service* to her *Hungarian* Majeſty; ſince ſhe could therewith have *hired* a *larger Body* of Troops, which, being abſolutely at her own Command, would not have *diſputed her Orders*; and thereby loſt ſuch an Opportunity, of *purſuing a flying Enemy*, as, had it been

rightly improved, might have *put an End to the War* at once; *baffled all the Schemes* of his *Pruſſian* Majeſty; and *decided* the *Fate* of *Germany*.

What renders this Conduct ſtill the *more unpardonable*, and *inexcuſable*, is, that after all our *great Parade*, and all our *expenſive Armaments*, there is ſome Reaſon to doubt, whether it was ever *ſeriouſly intended*, to afford any *effectual Aſſiſtance* to the *Heroine* of *Hungary*. For, tho' a large Body of *Britiſh* Forces were ſent over to *Flanders*, and were, not long after, join'd by 16000 *Hanoverians*, it was not till the Seaſon for Action was well nigh over; ſo that we were *burthen'd*, with thoſe *Mercenary* Troops, full ſix Months before there was any Occaſion for them: Beſides, they were order'd to a Place, where they could not be of any Manner of Uſe to that Princeſs, namely, to the *Netherlands*.

This is ſo true, that the *Dutch* remonſtrated ſtrongly againſt our forming any Army in thoſe Parts; as what would prove rather a *Diſſervice*, than otherwiſe, to the Cauſe we *pretended* to eſpouſe, by drawing down the *French* Forces into the *Auſtrian Low Countries*; beſides, that it would *endanger* their *Barrier*, by furniſhing his *Moſt Chriſtian*,

tian, or rather *Antichriſtian Majeſty*, with a *plauſible Pretext* for attacking it.

But, theſe are not the only Reaſons, for believing it was never ſeriouſly intended, to give her *Hungarian* Majeſty any *effectual Relief*; our Conduct, the following Campaign, renders it almoſt evident: For, how did we then behave? Why, truly, we march'd up the *Rhine* into *Germany*, but, it did not quite appear that it was with Deſign to enter into Action; but to amuſe the People here at Home, and make a Shew of doing ſomething, for the *immenſe Sums* granted for that Purpoſe. This may reaſonably be conjectur'd, *Firſt*, by the Meſſage ſent to the Emperor at *Frankfort*, that he had nothing to apprehend from thoſe Forces: *Secondly*, by our not *improving* our Victory at *Dettingen*, in purſuing the flying *French*, though they had firſt attack'd us; and the *poſitive Refuſal* of the *H———ns* to concur therein; for which, however, they were never called to any Account: *Thirdly*, by our not joining with the victorious Army of Prince *Charles*, and following our Blow: *Fourthly*, by our flatly rejecting all reaſonable Offers of Peace, (at leaſt, as is aſſerted in the *Pruſſian* Manifeſto,) when at *Hanau*; whereas, for the Intereſt of the Queen of *Hungary*, we ſhould earneſtly have cloſed therewith,

and ſtrenuouſly adviſed: *Fifthly*, by our never *making one Step* towards promoting a *Reconciliation* between the Courts of *Berlin* and *Vienna*; an Omiſſion, which had always been imputed to our late *Grand Vizier*, as one of the moſt capital Faults of his *long*, *blundering*, and *corrupt* Adminiſtration.

Theſe, we ſay, are ſome Reaſons, for conjecturing, that our Intentions were not vigorouſly to ſupport the Queen of *Hungary*; and that the whole of our Operations that Campaign, like thoſe of the laſt, wou'd have been a *meer military Farce*, calculated only to *ſaddle* us with thoſe *obnoxious Troops* another Year. But, were theſe not ſufficient, a *yet-more-convincing* Reaſon, than any of theſe, is; that it has been the whole Tenour of our Conduct, from the Year 1721, to 1741, to *reduce* and *weaken* the Houſe of *Auſtria*, in Compliance with the *jealous Views* of a certain *G——n El——te*; and that the *preſent*, *wretched Condition* of that Family, is *entirely owing* thereto: Was it therefore to be imagin'd, that we would at one Stroke undo, what we had been Twenty Years diligently labouring to accompliſh? None but a Natural can think this. We cannot, therefore, help being *greatly ſurprized*, that a Princeſs of ſuch excellent Senſe in

every

every other Point, ſhould not ſee through all this *Grimace*, and ſhould longer repoſe *any Confidence* in us.

Our Conduct the very laſt Campaign, (which we therefore hope will be the very, laſt we ever ſhall make, at leaſt, in thoſe Countries, and on that Pretence,) renders this yet more clear; for, after the timely Grant of a much greater Sum, than ever was before given by this Nation, how did we behave, either by *Land*, or *Sea?* Why, to the *eternal Scandal* and *Diſhonour* of this Kingdom, after ſuch infinite Expence, our Army ſo late in the Year as the latter End of *July*, they did not amount to above 50,000 Men; and, inſtead of being able to face the Enemy, they were forced to *intrench themſelves* up to the *very Noſe*, and *ignominiouſly ſkulk* behind thoſe Safeguards, whilſt the *haughty Enemy* went on quietly, taking Town after Town, in their very Sight.

Nay, into ſuch a *pretty Plunge* were they brought, by our *hopeful Counſels*, that had not Prince *Charles* of *Lorrain* glorioufly forced a Paſſage over the *Rhine*, (which coſt us 150,000 *l.* and was near coſting the Queen of *Hungary* all *Bohemia*,) and thereby call'd away the greateſt part of the *French* Troops,

from *Flanders*, to make Head againſt him, *our Handful of Men*, being in a Manner ſurrounded by Three great Armies, muſt have been either *cut in pieces*, or all made *Priſoners at Diſcretion*; and, which was yet a *greater Mortification*, when, by the Means of *this powerful* and *ſeaſonable Diverſion*, and the Acceſſion of ſome Reinforcements, our Army was become conſiderably ſuperiour to the Enemy, and it was propoſed to enter into Action and take Advantage thereof; our *hopeful Allies* the *Dutch*, though, we had been aſſured by our *M———r* in *P——t*, they would now *heartily concur* with Us, *refuſed* to *act offenſively*; and our more *hopeful Mercenaries* the *H———s*, did likewiſe *abſolutely refuſe* to act, unleſs the others would *co-operate*, becauſe *his ———s Troops muſt be preſerved.*

Such were our *glorious Atchievments* by Land; nor were our *mighty Feats*, by Sea, much better; our Admiral in the *Mediterranean*, *not daring* effectually to aſſiſt Prince *Lobkowitz*, by a *Bombardment* of *Naples*, which would inevitably have recover'd that Kingdom for the Queen of *Hungary*, for Fear of drawing down the Arms of *Saxony* upon certain favourite Dominions; and, by the *moſt unaccountable Conduct* in the World,

the

the *Breſt* and *Toulon* Squadrons being ſuffer'd to join the *Spaniards*, without ſending a *ſufficient Reinforcement* to Mr. *Rowley*, (which has already coſt Us the Life of Sir *John Balchen* and all on Board with him, together with the *fineſt Ship* that ever was in the Royal Navy, or probably in the Univerſe) that Gentleman, with all his Squadron, may even now be in the utmoſt Danger; and it is well, if their Loſs, ſhould it happen, is not followed, by that of *Gibraltar* and *Port Mahon*.

Such a continued Series of *deſperate Meaſures* were, one would think, more than ſufficient, to cauſe a *general Diſcontent*, as indeed they did; but our *Jehu* of a M——r, as if he had thought himſelf ſure, not only that our Patience would never be wearied out, or our Riches exhauſted, for about theſe he never gave himſelf the leaſt Trouble, but that, *let him run what Lengths he pleaſed*, he cou'd procure a *M—j—ty* in a *certain Place*, *ſufficiently attach'd* to him, to approve thereof, (in which, however, Heaven be thank'd! he found himſelf miſtaken) had determined to proceed yet *much farther*, in the ſame *deſperate Track*.

Accordingly, upon the King of *Pruſſia*'s marching into *Bohemia*, we were informed, in

in the publick Papers, that his M——y would augment his Troops with we know not how many Thouſands, and the *States General* were exhorted to follow his Example; beſides which, we were told, that our Sovereign laid Claim to the Succeſſion of the Prince of *Eaſt Friezland*, whereof his *Pruſſian Majeſty* has already taken Poſſeſſion; which may probably involve Us in a War with that Monarch on that Account: Such was the *bleſſed Proſpect*, we had before our Eyes, when the Time of the Parliament's Meeting approach'd, on which alone all our Hopes of Relief were placed; though to our *inexpreſſible Joy*, *Surprize*, and *Satisfaction*, we found, before that Time, we had ſome *Good Friends* at Court, who, though they had gone very far, and ſeen us *driven* to the *Brink* of a *Precipice*, would not proceed any farther, and *force Us* to take the *finiſhing Leap*; but happily for Us, they *turn'd ſhort*, and *interpoſed* to our *Reſcue:* For which *one ſingle meritorious Act alone*, we hope, all their former *wrong Steps* will be *buried in oblivion*, and remember'd no more.

After this *ſuccinct* and *impartial* Detail, of the Conduct of the late A————n, and, more particularly of that of the Perſon who was

was *generally*, and we believe *juſtly* thought the Head thereof, we ſuppoſe, it will be no great Matter of Wonder, that they kept their Power *no longer*; but, it will rather be Matter of *Aſtoniſhment* they maintained themſelves therein ſo long.

In Effect, when we conſider what fatal Meaſures the whole of their *A———n*, *ſhort* as it was, conſiſted of, with the *little Care* they took, either to make themſelves *Friends*, or render themſelves *agreeable* to the People; their *notorious Breach* of Promiſe, in *not redreſſing* any one *Grievance*, whereof not only the Publick, but themſelves, had *ſo loudly* and *ſo juſtly* complain'd; the ſmall *Regard* they paid not only to their Words, but to their moſt *ſolemn Vows*, *Declarations*, and even *Oaths*; with the not only *deſtructive*, *oppreſſive*, and *unaccountable Conduct*, they *obſtinately purſued* both *abroad* and *at home*; and all this, without the *Allay* of *one ſingle good Action*; how was it poſſible, they ſhould *ſupport themſelves* for any Time?

It was imputed, and we are afraid, with too much Reaſon, as one of the *blackeſt Crimes*, to our late *Grand Vizier*, that he had not, during the whole Courſe of his long

long *Ad———n*, been the Author of one Law for the Benefit of theſe Kingdoms, but had conſtantly *poſtponed* the *true Intereſt* of *Great Britain*, and render'd it *ſubordinate* to that of *H———r*; and yet, to give him his Due, he had ever the *Grace* to *gild the Pill*. But, our *late Gentlemen*, as if they were aſſured, the People were *full ripe* for Slavery, and would *tamely ſubmit* to any Thing, however *barefaced*, did not *vouchſafe* to *colour over* their *moſt obnoxious* Meaſures, with the *leaſt Shew* of *Advantage* to *the Nation*.

Accordingly, they not only engaged Us in a *ruinous Land-War*, with a *Potentate*, whom we knew, by *woful* and *dear-bought* Experience, to be able to *ſupport it*, even under *one continued Series* of *aſtoniſhing Defeats*, and *Misfortunes*, above *Ten Years*, againſt the *almoſt-unanimouſly-combined Powers* of *Europe*; and this, when our Armies were led by *Two* of the *greateſt Generals* that any Age has produced; and when that *Potentate* had receiv'd a *conſiderable Acceſſion* of *Strength* by the *Acquiſition* of *Lorrain*; but they did this, when they were *conſcious*, our *natural Allies*, the *Dutch*, had not only *deſerted Us*, but had *remonſtrated ſtrenuouſly* againſt it; when they had not the *leaſt Proſpect* of *Succeſs*; when we *groan'd* under the *intol-*

intolerable Load, of a Debt, unlikely ever to be paid; and when the King of *Pruſſia* was engaged *indirectly*, and might, not improbably, be ſoon engaged, *directly* againſt Us.

And, as if all this was not ſufficient, but they were *firmly bent*, upon putting the finiſhing *Hand* to *our Ruin*, on *pretence* of *carrying on* this War, and to *drain Us* of our *laſt Shilling*, they not only took into our Pay, a Body of 16,000 Mercenaries, at an *immenſe Charge*, the *moſt diſagreeable* to Us, of any that could poſſibly have been procured; but they continued them therein, after they had *juſtly* render'd themſelves *obnoxious* to, and *deteſted* by Us, not only for their *notorious Inſolence, and Miſbehaviour*, together with their *peremptory Refuſal* to *obey* the *Orders* of their *Paymaſters*; but for the *groſs Partiality* ſhown them, in the *Diſtribution* of *Quarters*, and every other *galling Circumſtance*, which could make them odious to a *free People*; in ſhort, when they knew they would be *wholly uſeleſs*, if not *dangerous*. Such *Treatment* not even *Gibeonites*, *Slaves by Covenant*, could away with; a *Treatment!* which made them appear rather as *our Maſters*, then *Stipendaries!* and *gave great Room*, to the World to *conclude*, this *once powerful Nation*

Nation was become *tributary* and *under Vaſſalage* to a *petty El——te.*

Accordingly, it rouz'd all that was *Britiſh* within us; and, had not the approaching Seſſion of *P———* *given Hopes* of Relief, it is *uncertain* to *what Extremities* the People might have been *tranſported*; to our great Comfort, nevertheleſs, *kind Providence*, *better* to us than we *deſerve*, ſent us *Help* from *another Quarter*; and that One, from whom we *little expected* it; ſome *honeſt* and *faithful* Councellors, not able to *digeſt ſuch fatal* and *diſhonourable* Meaſures, *ſtood in the Gap*; and, however *diſagreeable*, and *tickliſh* the *Undertaking*, reſolved to *open the Eyes* of their Sovereign, and bring the *Cries* of a *generous* and *much-injur'd* Kingdom to the *Foot of the Throne.* Upon which, our *gracious Maſter*, in this *more prudent*, *more condeſcending*, and *more truly* the *Father* of *his People*, than many former Monarchs, conſented to *give up* an *obnoxious M —r*; though he had otherwiſe inſinuated himſelf *not a little* into his Favour.

As nothing cou'd be *better judg'd*, ſo nothing could be *more encouraging*, than this *timely* and *ſalutary Conceſſion* of our Prince; not only as it gave us a *Proſpect* of *preſeno*

ſent Relief, but as it ſeems a kind of *Earneſt*, that we ſhall always be able to *obtain Redreſs*, for the future, as ſoon as our *juſt Complaints* can *force their Way* to *his Ears*; and that, by *our united* and *vigorous Efforts*, we may at any Time, *take away the* Wicked *from before the* King, *that his* Throne *may be* eſtabliſh'd *in* RIGHTEOUSNESS.

FINIS.

FINE BINDING BY
C. SCHAUFFLER'S SONS 1974